Management of wildlife and game sanctuaries

914. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to assist State Governments for proper management of all game sancturies in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that State Governments have been demanding financial assistance for management of their wildlife and game sanctuaries;

(c) the response of Government to claims and demands for such assistance;

(d) whether any formula will be drawn up to increase the financial assistance to State Governments for their wildlife management and protection; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Financial assistance for development of National Parks and Sanctuaries is provided to Government of States/UTs on submission of Annual Plan of Operations by them subject to availability of funds.

(d) and (e) The wildlife management and protection is mainly the responsibility of the State Governments. Under Centrally Sponsored Schemes financial assistance is provided to the State Government for infrastructure development, communication and habitat management for effective wildlife management and protection. Assistance is provided on the basis of Annual Plan of Operations submitted by the States/UTs and subject to availability of funds.

Government's failure in environmental sector

915. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our environmental organisations have expressed unhappiness over Government's failure in the environmental sector;